



Docket No.: ASA-0020
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Masahito FUJITA et al.

Application No.: 10/817,533

Confirmation No.: 4871

Filed: April 2, 2004

Art Unit: 3682

For: MEMBER AND METHOD OF
MANUFACTURING THE SAME

Examiner: L. A. Footland

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION
AND
ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT**

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Restriction and Election of Species Requirement dated November 8, 2005 (Paper No. 110305), Applicant provisionally elects Group I: claims 1-14, drawn to a bearing and the species illustrated in Figs. 7A and 7B with traverse. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-14 read on the elected species.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search or the subject matter of any one group of claims would necessarily encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP 803 which is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims that are distinct or independent inventions" (emphasis added).